

National Retail Association

CURRENT STATUS OF PLASTIC LEGISLATION - APRIL 2025

IMPORTANT: The rules, exemptions and definitions for each state ban vary greatly. Please check each government website for details.

last updated: 30 April 2025	status	bans in effect, no further bans announced.	Consultation closed, awaiting govt update.	Consultation closed, awaiting govt update.	future bans on hold	Ban rollout underway.	Consultation closed, awaiting govt update.		Ban rollout underway. <i>New produce/barrier bags standard</i>	consultation ongoing, awaiting next steps	Bans in effect. Stage 3 delayed.
		ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	FEDERAL AUST	NZ
GENERAL	Position on certified compostable plastic	banned	banned except produce stickers	TBC	varied	<i>varied, see website</i>	TBC	banned	varied. Mostly accepted	recyclable preferred	varied
UTENSILS	Plastic straws	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025 TBC	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23
	Plastic cutlery	Jul-21	Nov-22	2025 TBC	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23 incl. integrated
	Plastic stirrers	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025 TBC	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Jul-22		Oct-22
FOODWARE (without lids)	Plastic plates	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025 TBC	Sep-21	Sep-23		Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23 *see details
	Plastic bowls without lids	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025 TBC	Sep-21	Sep-23	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22		Jul-23
	Plastic containers without lids		end-2027			Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22		
	Polymer-coated paper plates	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	2025 TBC	exempt	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	TAS 2025 TBC	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	Jul-22		
	- cert compostable allowed?	no	no	?		no		no	no		
	Polymer-coated paper bowls without lids	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	2025 TBC	exempt	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22		
	- cert compostable allowed?	no	no	?		yes		allowed if fibre based			
FOODWARE (with lids)	Plastic bowls with lids		end-2027			Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-24		
	Plastic takeaway containers with lids/windows/seals		end-2027			Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-24		
	Plastic lined paper cartons (eg. noodle box)		end-2027			Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-24		
	Plastic lid/windows/seals for food containers		end-2027			Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-24		
OTHER FOOD PACKAGING	Condiment packaging / soy sauce fish		label 2027, recyclable 2030			Sep-25	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC				
	Sauce sachets		label 2027, recyclable 2030				Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC				
	Non-compostable produce labels		Ban end 2030			Sep-25	TAS 2025 TBC				EXTENDED Jul-28
	Bread tags / similar rigid tags used to close a bag		Ban end 2025			Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC				
	Polystyrene (PS) takeaway food/bev packaging										Oct-22
	PVC pre-formed food trays and containers										Oct-22
	PS and PVC food packaging (pre-packaged)										TBC
	Plastic sticks for lollipops, ice-cream, foods		Ban end 2025				TAS 2025 TBC				
	Pizza savers		Ban end 2025				TAS 2025 TBC				
	Items in pre-packaged food/bev products	exempt	exemption ends 31 Dec 2024		exemption ends 31 Dec 2025	exemption ends 31 Aug 2025	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC	exemption ends 31 Dec 2025	varied		some integrated included
DRINKWARE	Plastic beverage containers (eg. bottles) ie. CDS	2018	2017	2012	2018	1977	2023	2023	2020		2025 TBC
	Plastic beverage container lids		tether end 2030								
	Plastic beverage stoppers/plugs		TBC (see paper)			Sep-24					
	Plastic cups for cold drinks		end-2027			Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Oct-22		
	Plastic cups for hot drinks		labelling end 2027			Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Mar-24		
	Plastic cup lids & seals		end-2027			Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Mar-24		
EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (EPS)	EPS foodware (eg clamshells)	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025 TBC	Sep-21	Mar-22	TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Jul-22	2022	Oct-22
	EPS cups	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025 TBC	Sep-21	Mar-22	TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Sep-23	2022	
	EPS trays (eg. meat, fresh produce)	Jul-23	Ban end 2025	2025 TBC		Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22 / Sep-23	2022	
	EPS multi-serve gelato container	currently exempt	exemption ends 31 Dec 2024	2025 TBC	Sep-21	Sep-29	TAS 2025 TBC	exempt	Jul-22	2022	
	EPS pre-packaged food/drink (eg. noodle cups)		exemption ends 31 Dec 2024		exemption ends 31 Dec 2025	Sep-25	TAS 2025 TBC	exemption ends 31 Dec 2025			
	EPS packaging (loose fill)	Jul-23	Ban end 2025	2025 TBC	Sep-23		TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-23	2025	
	EPS packaging (moulded*)		Ban end 2025	2025 TBC			TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-25	2025	
OTHER FOAMED PLASTIC	Expanded plastic packaging (loose fill) eg. EPE, EVA, bio		Ban end 2025				TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-23		
	Expanded plastic packaging (moulded*) eg. EPE, EVA, bio		Ban end 2025				TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-25		
BAGS	Lightweight plastic shopping bags (<36 microns)	cert. compostable exempt					cert. compostable exempt				
	Heavyweight plastic shopping bags (>36 microns)	Jan-24	design std end 2025	2025 TBC	Reusable Std by Sep-23	Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22		
	Paper bags with plastic laminate	Jan-24	design std end 2025			Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22		
	Fabric bags	Jan-24				Sep-24			Jul-22		
	Non-compostable produce bags (fruit, veg & dry goods)		Unclear (see paper)			Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-24*		Jul-23
	Non-compostable barrier bags (meat & other)		Unclear (see paper)			Sep-25	TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-25*		
OTHER	Plastics with 'degradable' additives	Jul-22	Ban end 2025			Mar-22	TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-23	TBC	Oct-22
	Intentionally added PFAS / harmful chemicals		2025, 2027 (see paper)								
	Cotton buds with plastic shafts	Jul-22	Nov-22		Sep-23	Sep-23	TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Sep-23		Oct-22
	Plastic microbeads - personal care & cleaning rinse-off	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025 TBC	Sep-23	Sep-23	TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-23	voluntary code	
	Balloon releases		Ban end 2025		Sep-23		banned		Jul-22		
	Balloon ties or sticks		Ban end 2025			Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC				
	Plastic confetti / table scatters					Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC				
	Plastic bait bags										
	Cigarette butts		TBC (see paper)								
	Washing machine filters		end 2027								
	Mandated packaging design standards								2025		

Already banned **Banned soon (regs finalised)** **Proposed for ban / under consultation** **Design standards / CDS in effect** **Proposed for design standards / CDS**

KEY SOURCES	Government website:	ACT City Services	NSW plastics ban 2022	Circular Economy Strategy	Official ban website: ReplaceTheWaste SA	TAS Plastics Ban	VIC Plastics Ban	DWER Govt website	National Packaging Targets	NZ Plastics Plan
	Business website:				QLD Plastics Ban (NRA/DES)			Plastics Ban WA (NRA/DWER)		
	Other resources:		2024 Plastics Action Plan	Darwin by-law	* See government website for detailed exemptions	Hobart by-law		* New WA design standard for produce/barrier bags	National Plastics Plan	National Waste Policy